SLS 10RS-493 **ORIGINAL** 

Regular Session, 2010

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SENATE BILL NO. 149

BY SENATOR THOMPSON

AGRICULTURE/FOREST DEPT. Requires the Department of Agriculture to conduct inspections of slaughtering establishments to ensure compliance with the "Federal Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act." (gov sig)

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 3:4201(12) and 4203 and to enact R.S. 3:4201(22), relative to
3	slaughtering livestock; to provide for the definition of the "Federal Humane Methods
4	of Livestock Slaughter Act"; to provide relative to humane methods of slaughter; to
5	require inspections of slaughtering establishments; and to provide for related matters.
6	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
7	Section 1. R.S. 3:4201(12) and 4203 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
8	3:4201(22) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
9	§4201. Definitions
10	As used in this Chapter, except as otherwise specified, the following terms
11	shall have the meanings stated below:
12	* * *
13	(12) The term "Federal Meat Inspection Act" means the act so entitled
14	approved March 4, 1907, as amended by the Wholesome Meat Act (21 U.S.C. 71 et
15	seq.), and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto.
16	* * *
17	(22) The term "Federal Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act of

1978" means the act so entitled, approved October 10, 1978 (7 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.), and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto.

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## §4203. Antemortem inspection and humane methods of slaughter

A. For the purpose of preventing the use in intrastate commerce, as hereinafter provided, of meat and meat food products which are adulterated, the commissioner shall cause to be made, by inspector inspectors appointed for that purpose, an antemortem inspection of all cattle, sheep, poultry, swine, goats, horses, mules and other equines before they shall be allowed to enter into any slaughtering, packing, meat-canning, rendering or similar establishment, in this state in which slaughtering and preparation of meat and meat food products of such animals are conducted solely for intrastate commerce, and all cattle, sheep, poultry, swine, goats, horses, mules and other equines found on such inspection to show symptoms of disease shall be condemned if the diseased condition warrants such action, or shall be set apart and slaughtered separately from all other cattle, sheep, poultry, swine, horses, mules or other equines, and when so slaughtered, the carcasses of said cattle, sheep, poultry, swine, goats, horses, mules or other equines shall be subject to a careful examination, all as provided by the rules and regulations to be prescribed by the commissioner as herein provided for.

B. For the purpose of preventing the inhumane slaughtering of livestock, the commissioner shall cause to be made, by inspectors appointed for that purpose, an examination and inspection of the method by which cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines are slaughtered and handled in connection with slaughter in the slaughtering establishments inspected in this state. The commissioner may refuse to provide inspection to a new slaughtering establishment or may temporarily suspend inspection at a slaughtering establishment if the commissioner finds that any cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines have been slaughtered or handled in connection with slaughter by any method not in accordance with the Federal Humane

Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act (7 U.S.C. § 1901 et seq.). The refusal to inspect or suspension shall continue until the establishment furnishes assurances satisfactory to the commissioner that all slaughtering and handling in connection with slaughter of livestock is in accordance with such method.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Curry Johnson.

## **DIGEST**

<u>Proposed law</u> clarifies that references to the "Federal Meat Inspection Act" include any amendments to the act.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the "Federal Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act of 1978" means the act so entitled, approved October 10, 1978 (7 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.), and any amendments to the act.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the commissioner to appoint inspectors to examine and inspect the method by which cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines are slaughtered and handled in the slaughtering establishments inspected in this state.

<u>Proposed law</u> authorizes the commissioner to refuse inspection to a new slaughtering establishment or temporarily suspend inspection at a slaughtering establishment if the commissioner finds that any cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, mules, or other equines have been slaughtered or handled in connection with slaughter by any method not in accordance with the "Federal Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act."

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 3:4201(12) and 4203; Adds R.S. 3:4201(22))